

# Heat Mat

Underfloor Heating

## FlexHeat

### High Quality, Ultra-Thin, 17th Edition Compliant Heating Cable

Fitting Guide – version 1

Call 01444 247020 for Technical Support



**Underfloor Heating** – made easy...

**Please ensure you read this guide completely before commencing installation of the underfloor heating. If you are unsure of any aspect of the installation please call Heat Mat's Technical Support helpline on 01444 247020.**

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**Before commencing your installation, please check that you have the correct heater or combination of heaters for your chosen area.** (see page 6 for details)

Heat Mat Limited accept no liability, either express or implied, for any consequential losses incurred as a result of a Heat Mat system installation that does not conform to the following installation instructions.

# Do's and Don'ts

- Do thoroughly read this guide before commencing installation
- Do space the cables evenly across the floor to produce a uniform heat output
- Do ensure that all heating wire (including joints) is fitted beneath the floor covering
- Do use a multi-meter to test the cable, before, during and after covering (see page 4)
- Do connect multiple cables in parallel
- Do consider thermally insulating your sub-floor before installing the underfloor heating system
- Do use a Heat Mat thermostat to control your system
- Do ensure that all electrical works conform to Part 'P' of the Building Regulations and current IEE Wiring Regulations
- Do ensure the system is protected by a suitable RCD device (30mA)
- Do ensure that all heating cable and connections are covered with tile adhesive or levelling compound
- Do log on to [www.heatmat.co.uk](http://www.heatmat.co.uk) to ensure that you are using the most recent instructions
- Do ensure all heating cables are at least 40mm away from each other
- Don't cut, shorten, strain or cross the heating cables.
- Don't bend the joint between the element and cold tail
- Don't supply power to the heater until the cable has been fully encased and the wet trade has been allowed to fully dry out
- Don't lay cables closer than 30mm to each other or conductive parts
- Don't lay cables closer than 90mm if covering with wood, vinyl or carpet
- Don't lay cables more than 110mm apart from each other if you wish to achieve even heating on your floor
- Don't install heating cables if the ambient temperature is below 5°C as they can become less flexible
- Don't install the heating cable at an output higher than 200W/sqm
- Don't install the heating cables in walls or ceilings
- Don't install the floor sensor close to other heat sources such as hot water pipes
- Don't begin covering with tile adhesive or levelling compound until the system is in place and has been tested with a multi-meter (see page 4)
- Don't leave any sections of the heating cable or connections in the open air or beneath fixtures and fittings when installation is completed
- Don't use the heating system to help to dry out the wet trade

# 3mm Heating Cable 14.5 W/m technical specification

Product Code	Length in Metres	Resistance +/- 10%	Wattage	Standard Coverage	Coverage at 200W/m <sup>2</sup> c-c 7.25cm	Coverage at 150W/m <sup>2</sup> c-c 9.65cm
FLX-CAB-0200	15.0m	301 Ω	200W	1.0 to 1.5 m <sup>2</sup>	1.0 m <sup>2</sup>	1.3 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-0300	23.0m	199 Ω	300W	1.6 to 2.2 m <sup>2</sup>	1.5 m <sup>2</sup>	2.0 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-0400	30.0m	149 Ω	400W	2.3 to 3.0 m <sup>2</sup>	2.0 m <sup>2</sup>	2.7 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-0600	41.0m	95 Ω	600W	3.1 to 4.4 m <sup>2</sup>	3.0 m <sup>2</sup>	4.0 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-0800	53.3m	73 Ω	800W	4.5 to 5.9 m <sup>2</sup>	4.0 m <sup>2</sup>	5.3 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-1000	66.7m	58 Ω	1000W	6.0 to 6.9 m <sup>2</sup>	5.0 m <sup>2</sup>	6.7 m <sup>2</sup>
2 X FLX-CAB-0600	2 x 40.0m	2 x 95 Ω	1200W	7.0 to 8.6 m <sup>2</sup>	6.0 m <sup>2</sup>	8.0 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-1400	93.3m	42 Ω	1400W	8.5 to 9.9 m <sup>2</sup>	7.0 m <sup>2</sup>	9.3 m <sup>2</sup>
FLX-CAB-1600	106.7m	37 Ω	1600W	10.0 to 11.4 m <sup>2</sup>	8.0 m <sup>2</sup>	10.7 m <sup>2</sup>

Test your heating cable with a multi-meter before unwrapping to confirm you have received it in working order.

The black coldtail is double insulated and carries an earth screen (silver braid), live and neutral wires.

Exposing the ends of these wires will allow the continuity tests to be carried out with a functional multi-meter.

This test should also be done before, during and after tiling or pouring of levelling compound.

At no point should any cable be connected to a power supply to test it.

## Tests

- Live to neutral = ohms value as listed above
- Live to earth and neutral to earth = both infinity.

If your tests do not conform to the expected results please contact Heat Mat's Technical Support Team.

## Technical Data:

General Construction:	Dual conductor wire with earth
Voltage:	240 Vac – 50Hz
Maximum Load:	15.5 W/m
Maximum Cable Temperature:	90°C
Approvals:	BEAB, Semko and CE marked
Wire Thickness:	2.7mm to 3.2mm depending on Ohm Value
Cable Flexibility:	Minimum allowable cable radius is 18mm
Power Range:	200W to 1600W
Approved in accordance with:	EN60335-2-96:2002 and EN60335-1:2002 part A13:2008

## Construction:

Thermal Conductor:	2 x resistance wire insulated with Teflon (FEP 7Y) tested to 200°C
Outer Insulation:	PVC (Y) tested to 90°C
Reinforcement Materials:	Fibreglass strands
Insulation Shield:	Tinned copper screen, 24 x 0.2mm S-Z spiral and 100% aluminium earth screen
IP Rating:	IPX7
Fixing Materials:	Supplied with double-sided tape

The BEAB system approval covers the heating cables when they are installed with Heat Mat's CPS, TPS or NGT thermostats.



BEAB approved



Semko approved



Certified EMC safe



Manufactured in a BEAB approved factory

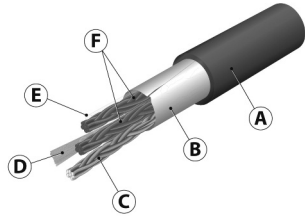


CE Marked

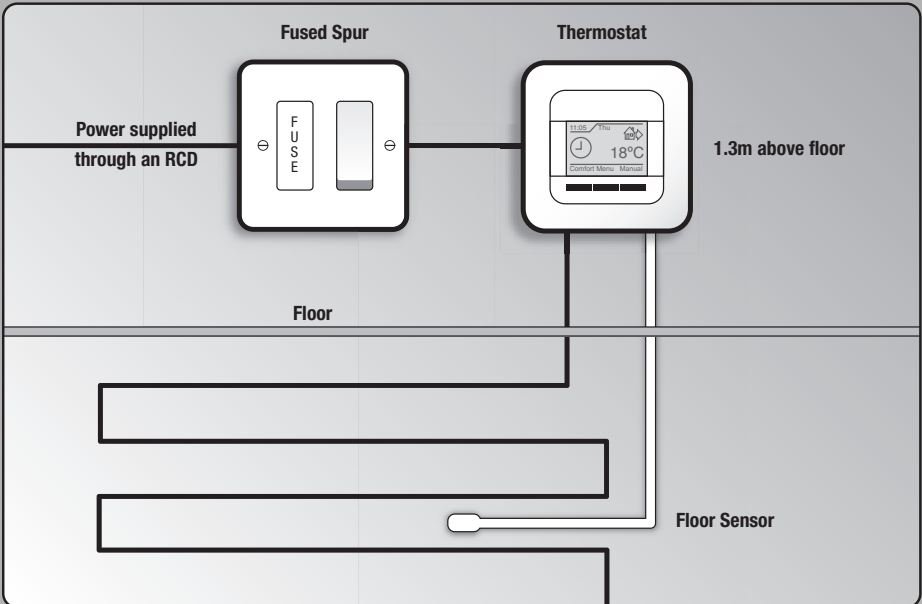
# Basic wiring diagram and warning label

## Typical Wiring System

- All electrical works must be carried out by a certified electrician.
- A suitable RCD protection must be incorporated in this system.
- If the ampage of the thermostat is exceeded by your chosen system, a contactor or similar device will be required. All thermostats used must be of a two-pole design with a minimum opening between the contacts of 3mm.
- The heating cables must not be cut or cross each other or other wiring.
- The cold tail joint must be kept straight and located beneath the final floor covering and must be thoroughly encased in tile adhesive or levelling compound.
- Please consult your electrician to discuss your individual requirements.



- A.** Robust PVC (Y) outer insulation.
- B.** 100% aluminium earth shield for safety
- C.** High load earth drain wire
- D.** Fiberglass reinforcement cable for tensile strength
- E.** Teflon insulation rated to 200°C
- F.** Litzner style twin spiral wound resistance wires



Please see the back page of this fitting guide for the required information label for the distribution board.

It is a legal requirement that this label is completed and the required information is displayed near the relevant distribution board.

# Choosing the correct cable spacing (c-c)

Calculate the total m<sup>2</sup> of floor area you have in your room, and then deduct any areas where underfloor heating can not be laid, such as any floor fixed furniture including baths, shower trays, kitchen units, central islands etc. This will give you your free floor area.

To calculate the wattage output per m<sup>2</sup> you will have, divide the wattage listed for your cable/s by the m<sup>2</sup> free floor area that you have to heat i.e

$$\frac{1,600W}{8m^2} = \text{an output of } 200W/m^2$$

Now you must calculate the cable to cable (c-c) distance you will lay your heating cable at. Divide the free floor area multiplied by 100 by the total length of the cables you have to lay i.e

$$\frac{8m^2 \times 100}{106.7m} = 7.5cm$$

You should therefore, in this circumstance, lay all of the cables in runs roughly 7.5cm apart.

The 3mm Heating Cable table on page 4 can be used as a guide as it shows approximate m<sup>2</sup> coverage of each cable when laying at 150W/m<sup>2</sup> (c-c approx 9.65cm) and 200W/m<sup>2</sup> (c-c approx 7.25cm).

As a guide to confirming the wattage per square metre (W/m<sup>2</sup>) that you require, please use the following advice in conjunction with the table shown at the top of page 4.

## Standard rooms – 150W/m<sup>2</sup> column:

When using any suitable floor covering including tiles, carpet, vinyl or wood. These cables can be laid straight onto wooden or \*insulated concrete bases. They can provide primary heating in well insulated areas and secondary heating in other circumstances. (Please note a levelling compound will be required for use with any floor covering other than tiles.)

\* Insulation within the floor base minimises downward heat loss allowing your underfloor heating to run more efficiently.

Insulation laid directly beneath the underfloor heating will provide the largest benefit, and the further down in the floor build the insulation is (such as beneath a screed) the less benefit it will offer. Systems laid onto very badly insulated floor bases may not meet your expectations.

## High heat loss rooms – 200W/m<sup>2</sup> column:

When using beneath tiles on \*insulated concrete bases and when primary heating is a priority. If the system is being installed to provide the only source of heating, you would normally evenly space the cables in rows between 6.0 – 9.5cm apart to achieve this. Speak to your electrician or builder to confirm that the system output meets your individual requirements.

Although 100% coverage is achievable, a border of 2-4cm is recommended around the perimeter of the room as the heating cables should not touch the walls, kickboards etc.

We would recommend planning your installation before starting to lay your cable, and also that you photograph your cable layout before tiling for future reference.

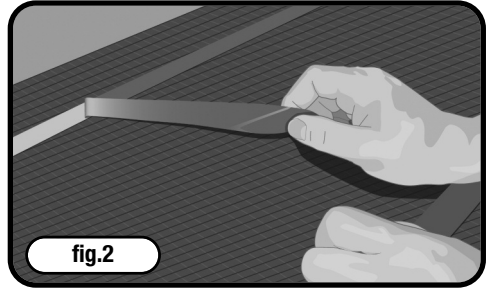
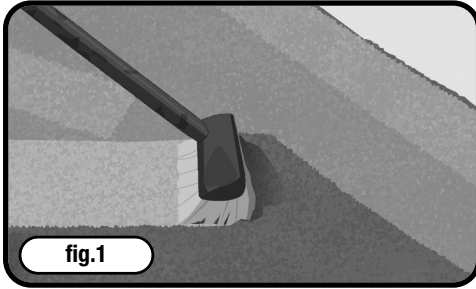
The thermal resistance (insulation) between the heating system and the room must not have an insulation value higher than 0.125 m<sup>2</sup>K/W. Some typical insulation values for common floor coverings are listed below:

Tiled, stone and thin vinyl floors up to	0.035 m <sup>2</sup> K/W
Linoleum floors and thick vinyl floors up to	0.040 m <sup>2</sup> K/W
Hessian backed carpets with low Tog underlays up to	0.125 m <sup>2</sup> K/W
Parquet and laminate floors up to 18mm thick up to	0.125 m <sup>2</sup> K/W
Wood fibre floors and rubber backed carpets from	0.175 m <sup>2</sup> K/W

## Wood fibre and rubber backed carpets are not suitable for use with underfloor heating.

The material used to cover the heating cable must have a density of 1,500kg/m<sup>3</sup> and a minimum heat transmission of 1W/m K, all normal tile adhesives, levelling compounds and screeds conform to this standard.

# Installation instructions



## Floor preparation

Ensure the sub-floor is solid, level and dust free.

Wooden floors can be reinforced using 18mm WPB plywood, 10mm Heat Mat Thermal Insulation boards or suitable Tilebacker boards. We would also recommend that the entire floor base is of the same construction to ensure the system performs evenly. If the floor construction is not uniform you should use Heat Mat Thermal boards or similar to provide a uniform base.

The sub-floor should be insulated to current building regulations, however, if you are unsure how well insulated your sub-floor is, Heat Mat can supply 6, 10 or 20mm Heat Mat Thermal Insulation boards. Insulation improves the performance and efficiency of your system, therefore reducing running costs. If there is little or no insulation within the sub-floor we would recommend using a suitable layer of insulation.

If installing Heat Mat Thermal boards, these should be secured with flexible tile adhesive onto concrete sub-floors, or with galvanised screws and washers onto timber bases. Reinforcement tape should be used across the joints. See [www.heatmat.co.uk](http://www.heatmat.co.uk) for further details.

Underfloor heating cables should not be installed directly onto a layer of soft insulation, it must have a structural layer of concrete or similar to facilitate an even heat spread.

Depending upon your chosen flexible tile adhesive / levelling compound, you may have to apply a primer to enable the adhesive to bond to the base floor.

If you do not have the build height required for Heat Mat Thermal boards Heat Mat supply i-primer thermal primer

which, although less effective than Heat Mat Thermal boards, can reduce downward heat loss by up to 20%.

This is an acrylic PVA based primer and is compatible with most flexible tile adhesives. Please consult with your adhesive manufacturer to confirm suitability. This product is advantageous where there is insufficient build height to install our Heat Mat Thermal insulation boards.

If you have chosen to cover your system with Mira Thermoplan flexible levelling compound, Mira 4280 Primer should be used to prime the floor base.

## Installing the Ultra-Thin Heating Cable System

Test each cable with a multi-meter before unpacking to ensure you have received your product in full working order. (See bottom of page 4 for testing instructions.)

Lay out runs of the double-sided tape the opposite way to the direction you wish to lay the cable. The runs of tape should be about 500mm apart and you must ensure a run of tape is positioned at either end of the room. (fig.2)

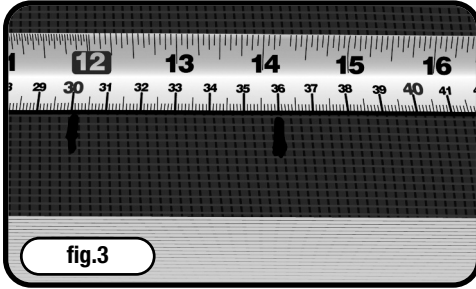
Measure and mark out your chosen cable to cable (c-c) distance across either side of your floor area. (fig.3)

Remove the protection from the double-sided tape.

Lay out your cable to your chosen spacing, going across your lines of tape and pressing the cable down onto the tape. The heating cable should be laid at least 30mm away from any conductive parts such as water pipes. Never let the cables touch or cross. (fig.4)

Adjust the spacing between the cable if required to ensure that your cable/s fit your room.

# Installation instructions



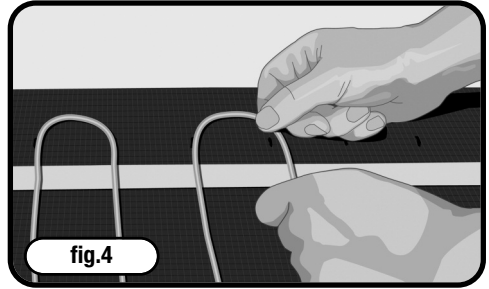
Remember to maintain even spacing wherever possible to ensure a constant output across the floor area. The cable runs must never be less than 30mm apart and if you find that your rows have to be 30mm or less to fit your room, STOP, as the cable is too big for your area. The heating cable can not be cut to shorten its length without being destroyed.

Ensure that the termination point at the end of the cable and the connection between the heating cable and the cold tail are kept straight and laid within the floor area beneath your tiles or chosen floor covering. These will have to be chased into the sub-floor to ensure they rest at the same height as the top of the heating cable. These must not be covered with tape, but do have to be fully encased in tile adhesive. (fig.5)

Masking tape can be used to ensure your cable is secured before tiling begins. You should not cover the entire length of the cable, simply place tape over the runs of double-sided tape and at any points where the cable is not lying flat on the floor. Any tape should be pinched around the cable to ensure no air pockets are created. (fig.6)

Position the floor sensor (contained inside the thermostat box), halfway between two runs of the heating elements. The floor sensor should not cross the heating cable and should be placed approx. 400mm into the heated floor space. The floor sensor at the end of the cable should also be chased into the sub-floor so it lies level with the top of the heating cables.

The sensor cable can be extended if required up to 50m using a twin sheathed high temperature PVC cable



and the connection between the two wires must be waterproof and fully insulated. Ideally, the floor sensor should be placed into a length of suitable close ended conduit (12-14mm diameter) so that it can be easily replaced if required.

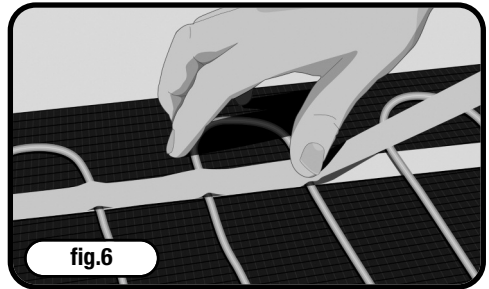
The floor sensor should not be fitted in areas affected by other heat sources, such as hot water pipes and radiators, or in an area that will be covered at a later date with items such as rugs or flat bottomed furniture, as this will prevent the system from operating correctly. If using one of Heat Mat's infra-red wall mounted floor sensors you are not required to include an additional floor sensor within the floor construction.

Multiple cables can be installed in one room but must be connected in parallel (they do not join together). Up to 2 cables can be physically wired into the back of the thermostat. More than 2 cables will require a connection box. If your system exceeds the Ampage rating of your chosen thermostat, your electrician can install a contactor or similar device to allow the heating system to operate safely through a single thermostat for ease of control.

Test the heater/s with a multi-meter again prior to covering. After removing the protective covering before laying the final floor covering you should check the continuity of the cable before proceeding.

If covering is not going to happen straight away, protect the heating system by covering with cardboard or carpet and restrict any traffic above the cable to a minimum.

# Installation instructions



## Covering the Heating Cable System

Wear soft soled shoes and cover the system with carpet/cardboard to protect it where you are working during installation. Do not allow any unnecessary traffic across the cabled area until the floor covering is completed. Do not stack or cut tiles across the cabled area and take care to avoid dropping sharp objects or tiles onto the cables as this can crush or cut into them.

Check the resistance and continuity of the cable with a multi-meter regularly during installation. If the resistance changes, or the cable goes to open circuit, the cable has been damaged. In this case, please contact Heat Mat's Technical Support line on 01444 247020. Even a small nick in or scratch to the outer insulation can lead to system failure when powered up over a period of time.

Heat Mat can supply Mira Thermoplan levelling compound to encapsulate the heating cable (mosaic tiles, carpets, vinyl and wood coverings require a layer 10 – 12mm from base level). Using a suitable flexible levelling compound reduces the risk of damage to the cables caused by using tile trowels and should a tile need to be replaced in the future, the heating cable is less likely to be damaged. Air pockets around the cables are also less likely with this method of installation. See [www.heatmat.co.uk](http://www.heatmat.co.uk) for further details on Mira installation.

Whether using flexible levelling compound or tile adhesive to cover your cable, you should avoid leaving air pockets around the heating cable. **In no circumstances** must tiles be laid with dabs of adhesive, they must always be fully bedded in.

If using tile adhesive and grout to complete your installation they must be suitable for underfloor heating, the main requirement being that they are 'flexible' adhesives and grouts. Please refer to the manufacturers instructions to confirm suitability.

If using flexible tile adhesive, a plastic notched trowel should be used to push the adhesive along the cable rather than against it. Care should be exercised to prevent damage to or dislodging of the heating cables. Ideally, lay carpet or cardboard on top of the exposed cable and use this as a crawl board to avoid damaging the system. Although the cable is reinforced, it is ideal if the trowel does not make contact with the cable itself.

If a tile needs to be moved after placement this must be done carefully to avoid damaging the heating cable.

The floor should be grouted with a flexible grout, and particular care should be taken not to damage the heating system when cleaning out any grout lines. The underfloor heating must never be used to 'dry out' the tile adhesive. The system must not be turned on until the adhesive, grout and/or levelling compound is completely dry. This would normally take at least seven days, but please refer to the appropriate manufacturers instructions for confirmation.

Once the floor covering is laid, test the resistance and continuity of the heating mats individually to confirm they are undamaged.

# Installation instructions

## Electrical connections

Wiring can now be completed but no power should be applied to the system until the adhesive, grout and/or levelling compound is completely dry.

All work must comply with current IEE wiring regulations and installations must comply with Part 'P' of the Building Regulations. Consult your Local Authority Building Control department regarding their requirements for certification or check with an electrician qualified to issue Part 'P' certification regarding your individual installation.

The heating cable has to be wired into a thermostat with floor temperature limitation. Please see the separate instructions in your Heat Mat thermostat box.

Run the coldtail connection and floor sensor cable in separate plastic conduit or trunking from your heated floor to the thermostat position.

Up to 2 heating cables can be wired straight into the thermostat. A connection box will be required if installing 3 or more heating cables. Ensure that multiple cables are wired in parallel, not in series.

The mains power supply must be protected by a suitable RCD (30mA and up to 4.8kW).

The thermostat should be connected to the power supply via a suitably rated fused spur or circuit breaker.

Should the total loading from a combination of heating cables exceed the Ampage rating of your chosen thermostat, the system will require the installation of a suitable rated contactor which would allow the heating system to be run through a single thermostat for ease of control.

Heat Mat's thermostats are IP21 rated, which means that they can be installed within a wet area in Zone 3 if it is available.

If the thermostat is placed outside the room to be heated, or inside a cupboard, the thermostat will have to be reprogrammed (when first switched on) to only monitor the floor sensor that has been placed into the heated floor space.

## Remember:

**If you are unsure how to proceed at any stage of the installation process, please contact Heat Mat Technical Support on 01444 247020 for guidance.**

## Living with your Underfloor Heating System

To ensure that your system works to its full capacity for the lifetime of the flooring, please ensure that thermal blocking is avoided above the heating system.

Thermal blocking occurs when the heat produced by the system warms the floor surface but is then trapped and has no way of escaping from the surface of the floor. This can cause the system to overheat in the thermally blocked area and, in extreme cases, affect the integrity of the floor covering and heating system.

Heat Mat's thermostats are IP21 rated, and the heating mats are IPX7 rated, which means systems can be installed in bathrooms and other 'wet areas' and if a suitable zone is available the thermostat can also be placed in the bathroom.

Thermal blocking is not usually a problem within floors where the system has been covered with levelling compound or tile adhesive and tiles, as these coverings are efficient transmitters of heat themselves and will spread the heat around any thermal block.

Thermal blocking has a greater chance of occurring in situations with a carpeted, wooden or laminate floor finish that do not utilise a levelling compound as these coverings do not transmit heat as effectively.

# Heat Mat Lifetime Warranty



## Congratulations on your purchase of a Heat Mat electric underfloor heating system.

The ultra-thin heating cable has been manufactured and supplied in the European Union by Heat-Com a/s/Heat Mat Limited, and the following Warranty is supplied in accordance with the general product liability rules, as stated in Directive 85/374/CEE, and all relevant national laws. You are provided with a fifteen year warranty on the ultra-thin heating cable for eventual defects in material. Details and evidence of defects has to be presented to Heat-Com, Heat Mat or an authorised UK or Ireland distributor for approval.

When your warranty is invoked, your damaged product will either be repaired or replaced free of charge to yourself.

### Your warranty does not cover the following:

- Any faults caused by misuse.
- A system which has not been installed in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines.
- Any other subsequential or consequential damages. To provide clarification, these damages could include the cost of repairs to walls, floors, wiles; professional fees; utility expenses. We would however pay for any reasonable damages which are a foreseeable consequence of Heat Mat's negligence.
- Any system that had not been paid for in full.

Heat-Com a/s/Heat Mat Limited are covered by an international insurance covering warranty payments.

In addition to the above warranty, Heat Mat offer a lifetime extension to the above warranty on your ultra-thin heating cable. To be covered by this extra warranty in addition to the above stipulations you must also:

- Register your product at [www.heatmat.co.uk/warrantyregistration](http://www.heatmat.co.uk/warrantyregistration) within 90 days of purchase.
- Be able to provide your proof of purchase of the system, a normal retail invoice/receipt is sufficient for this purpose.
- Ensure the system has been installed in accordance with Heat Mat's installation guidelines and it must be protected by a suitable RCD.
- Ensure that all installation work is compliant with current IEE wiring regulations and installations must comply with Part 'P' of the Building Regulations. You should retain your Part 'P' certificate as proof of this.

If the above stipulations have been followed, Heat Mat will provide a lifetime warranty once the original fifteen year warranty expires for the ultra-thin heating cable. This warranty runs for the life of the floor covering above the original installation. This warranty covers manufacturing defects in the ultra-thin heating cable supplied. Details and evidence of defects has to be presented to Heat Mat or an authorised UK or Ireland distributor for approval. When your warranty is invoked, your damaged product will either be repaired or replaced free of charge to yourself.

The repair or replacement of your system is the only remedy available to you under these warranties. None of the above warranties affect your statutory rights. Heat-Com a/s and Heat Mat Limited will in no event be liable for consequential losses or secondary charges including but not restricted to the cost of replacing or repairing floor coverings, any costs associated with utility expenses or running costs, professional fees relating to trades peoples' subsequent work or any other damage caused to material items.

**Heat Mat Limited,  
Ashwyn Business Centre,  
Marchants Way,  
Burgess Hill. RH15 8QY**

**T 01444 247020  
F 01444 247121  
[www.heatmat.co.uk](http://www.heatmat.co.uk)**

**Please complete and display at your distribution board.**

**Warning**

This building is fitted with Heat Mat 100% earth shielded electric underfloor heating utilising a 230Vac supply.

Do NOT pierce the floors above the system with nails, screws or other fasteners.  
(see installer diagram for heater positioning)

Do NOT expose the floor to thermal blocking or attempt to reduce the size of the heated floor area.

(check suitability of floor covering with manufacturer & that furniture has 10mm (min) air void beneath it.)

In the event of flooding or when carrying out any repairs or alterations disconnect the Under Floor Heating and contact your electrician or Heat Mat for advice

**Details of Installation:**

**Electricians Name:**

**Signature:**

**Company Name:**

**& Address:**

**Date:**

**Room with heating Installed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Wattage of system:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the product code and test results of each element after installation (**compare to install guide for rated resistance**)

Product Code	Resistance Rating	Insulation Test Passed
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**Heat Mat Ltd - Tel No: 01444 247020**

see [www.heatmat.co.uk](http://www.heatmat.co.uk) for more under floor heating solutions

This warranty card should be left with the thermostat user manual, Heat Mat system installation guide and the installer's heater layout & wiring diagrams to meet IEE Wiring regulations (17th Edition - section 753). These items should be permanently fixed near the relevant distribution board.